

**From:** R. D. Porcher  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 10:22am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To whom it may concern:

I am taking this time to do what I believe is my duty in this matter by voicing my opinion on the matter of the Microsoft antitrust case.

It is absolutely unthinkable that an entity with a record of anticompetative behavior as Microsoft has should be allowed to essentially walk free to continue to play dictator to the computing world. MS must be punished for their actions, and the current settlement is not the way to do it.

If MS is allowed to go through with their "generous" offer of donating 1 billion in hardware and software to US schools, they will, in fact, be playing the government and the citizens of the US as fools. Such an action would make hardly a dent in their armor. Yet it would make that armor even stronger by giving them a foothold in the one market that they have yet to dominate. Apple computer, one of MS' chief rivals, has long kept itself afloat by holding on to a tenuous lead in the education market. Allowing Microsoft to be punished by giving to US schools would, in effect, give them dominance in that market as well.

So, you see, this so called punishment, is actually a thinly-veiled attempt by MS to further their monopoly. They must not be allowed to do this. We rely on our government to protect us from those who would oppress us. Do not fail us here.

Sincerely,

Richard Dwight Porcher, III